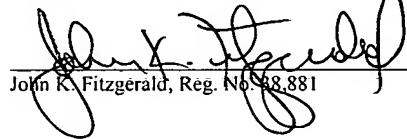


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on July 18, 2003.


John K. Fitzgerald, Reg. No. 48,881

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of

Inventor: Joseph J. Engleson et al.

Continuation of Serial No. 09/114,581

Filed: July 13, 1998

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
COLLECTING DATA AND MANAGING
PATIENT CARE

Examiner: Ronald D. Hartman, Jr.

Group Art Unit: 2121

Client ID/Matter No. IVACP-65055

July 18, 2003

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed concurrently with a continuation application of U.S. Serial No. 09/114,581 filed July 13, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/440,625 filed May 15, 1995 now U.S. Patent No. 5,781,442.

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination of the application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, after the title of the invention, insert the following new paragraph:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/114,581 filed July 13, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Serial No. 08/440,625 filed May 15, 1995 now U.S. Patent No. 5,781,442.